



TAJIKISTAN PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

United States Agency for International Development

Central Asia Region

ENTERPRISE & TRADE	Implementing Partners
<p>SME Support & Business Education: USAID is providing increased opportunities to access business and economic information in Tajikistan. Through Enterprise Development Centers (EDC) in Dushanbe and Khujand, USAID's SME Development project is delivering a comprehensive package of information, technical assistance and business training and advisory services to entrepreneurs and business managers. In partnership with the Government of Tajikistan, USAID is supporting a training, examination and certification program that will enable Tajikistan to fully adopt international standards of accounting and audit. Work with accounting reform, advocacy groups and professional associations continues to improve the SME environment by promoting greater transparency and accountability. A new Regional Trade Promotion activity is facilitating regional trade through an internet-based regional trade network. USAID's Resource Network for Economics and Business Education (EdNet) is offering college students greater opportunity to succeed in the free market by training professors in economics and business education, as well as making available teaching materials, and providing research opportunities and scholarships. The USAID-supported Small Enterprise Assistance Fund (SEAF) will provide equity, term-debt, and lease financing that gives entrepreneurs access to investment capital to operate and expand their businesses. USAID is also developing a banking reform program to strengthen the commercial banking sector.</p>	<p>KIMEP, Pragma, Carana, MBA-EC, MASHAV, SEAF</p>
<p>Small & Medium Agribusiness Support & Microfinance: In response to drought and heightened food security in Tajikistan, USAID supports a number of NGO and UN programs aimed at boosting agricultural productivity among vulnerable households. Activities include rehabilitation and expansion of small-scale irrigation works, credit for inputs and small animals, extension services, and provision and replication of improved grain and vegetable seed varieties. Programs specifically targeting women-headed households have boosted family incomes through credit and training. Results to date have shown dramatic increases in household income from relatively modest investments. USAID also promotes exchanges with U.S. farmer organizations and trains farmers on modern farming and agro-processing practices. ACDI/VOCA has established a local legally registered microfinance institution in Tajikistan that provides group micro-loans that help entrepreneurs and farmers gain greater opportunities to expand their businesses and improve their quality of life. To support expansion in the microfinance sector, USAID is coordinating with other donors and working with the National Bank to develop the needed legal and regulatory framework.</p>	<p>Pragma, Winrock International, ACTED, CARE, ACDI/VOCA</p>
<p>Commercial Law and Trade: USAID provides training to Tajik judges and attorneys in interpretation and application of commercial legislation. The primary objectives of this activity are the protection of property rights, the enforcement of contracts, and the development of basic commercial legislation necessary for the operation of a market economy. USAID is also assisting the government of Tajikistan with the initial stages of the WTO accession process. USAID continues to expand a computer database of Tajik laws and is working with the Tajik court system to establish modern methods of judicial administration and case management. USAID assisted the Tajik Council of Justice in establishing a judicial examination process and continues to monitor and assist in the administration of the exam to current and prospective judges. USAID provides training to legislative drafters and is assisting the Government of Tajikistan in developing the framework of commercial legislation necessary to support the development of private enterprise. USAID is currently initiating a new tax reform effort with the recently-established Ministry of State Revenues and Duties to simplify and make more effective the administration of the country's tax code.</p>	<p>Pragma, ARD/Checchi, TBD</p>
DEMOCRATIC CULTURE & INSTITUTIONS	Implementing Partners
<p>Civic Organizations: USAID supports the development of the NGO sector broadly by funding the establishment of a network of Civil Society Support Centers (CSCCs) – institutions managed by selected NGOs that will become localized, sustainable nodes of support for other NGOs. This strengthens the support infrastructure available to NGOs, leading to an increase in the professionalism, sustainability and impact of NGOs and other civil society groups. USAID also supports the empowerment of NGOs in targeted areas, such as the legal and environmental sectors. Special attention is given to groups or organizations working to further the peace process. USAID also encourages NGO participation in the preparation of legal and regulatory frameworks affecting NGO operations. USAID trains NGOs, offers small grants, and promotes civic education through roundtables on civic involvement.</p>	<p>ABA/CEELI, Counterpart Consortium, ISAR</p>

Media & Information: USAID supports independent television stations with training and legal assistance, and produces a weekly news exchange. Activities include seminars and limited equipment donations, plus training manuals on introductory station management, advertising production, advertising sales, investigative journalism, journalist's rights, and radio management and journalism. USAID promotes civic education through seminars, summer camps for youth and the development of a civic education textbook for 9 th graders and curriculum to be used in high schools.	Internews, IFES, Asia Plus
Political Process: USAID, in conjunction with other donors, is working with parliamentarians to strengthen the legislature and train parliamentary staff. USAID provides technical assistance to the full range of political parties to help create a more vibrant political culture. USAID encourages and assists in the formation of an independent judiciary, a judicial association and a judicial code of ethics. USAID is working with NGOs and parliamentarians to develop effective NGO legislation.	ABA/CEELI, ICNL, IFES

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE	Implementing Partners
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Quality Primary Health Care: USAID is working with the Ministry of Health to create a more cost-effective health care system that improves families' access to equitable, efficient and quality primary health care services. The new family doctor system is based on the successful Kyrgyzstan model that focuses on improving the quality, incentives, and the budgetary resources for primary health care services. Children and women of reproductive age will benefit from improved reproductive health services for women. USAID is teaching basic health education, preventing malnutrition and promoting access to primary health care among the rural population. In collaboration with the World Bank, USAID is providing technical assistance in health financing and health information systems.	Abt Associates/ Zdrav Plus, AAH, AKF, CARE, Counterpart Consortium
Infectious Disease Control: In conjunction with a donation of TB drugs by Global Drug Funds (GDF), USAID and WHO conducted an assessment of the TB situation in Tajikistan. Based on the assessment, two DOTS implementation pilot sites in Dushanbe were started. USAID has hired a TB educator and a manager with a pharmaceutical sector experience to implement DOTS. USAID continues to support the Roll Back Malaria initiative. Activities include components on improvement of diagnostic efficacy, surveillance and clinical management of malaria treatment and improvement of public awareness of how to prevent and control malaria. USAID's HIV/AIDS prevention efforts include a study tour for government officials to a model Harm Reduction site in Vilnius, Lithuania; and co-sponsoring the Central Asian Initiative Conference on the Prevention of HIV/AIDS/STIs. A document highlighting USAID's strategy on HIV/AIDS prevention in Central Asia has been published.	CDC, MERLIN, Project HOPE, RPM Plus Project
Health Partnerships: Although USAID's long term partnership between Boulder Community Hospital in Colorado and the Republican Training Center for Family Medicine (RTCFCM) in Dushanbe has ended, USAID will continue to support the RTCFCM through visits from the University of North Dakota partners working in Turkmenistan and will involve the RTCFCM in regional activities. The RTCFCM is providing post-graduate training to health care professionals, thus helping to improve the delivery of primary health care services.	AIHA

ENERGY & WATER MANAGEMENT	Implementing Partners
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Water Management: USAID is helping improve the tools, knowledge and skills of water and energy specialists and policymakers so that they can better manage these two critical resources. On the regional level, USAID is helping to build consensus with high level policy specialists on the optimal means of cooperation in shared waters and related energy systems of the Aral Sea basin. Technical studies and related on-the-ground demonstration projects support this work. Technical assistance on negotiating international water and energy agreements is also being provided. Likewise, USAID is working with the Tajikistan National Hydrometeorological Service as part of a region wide effort to improve water data collection and information exchanges. Such information is critical for regional water planning and allocation decision-making. Associated activities include installation of weather and water monitoring stations, computers and software programs, a regional communication system, and training programs. On the national level, USAID is working with the Ministry of Land Improvement and Water Economy to improve the management of water used for irrigation. Activities include infrastructure repairs, information technology, assistance in the development of water user groups, and associated training and outreach programs.	PA Consulting, Winrock International, Development Alternatives Inc, MASHAV
Public Commitment: USAID is building public interest in the energy and water sectors with commitment to reform. Public awareness activities coupled with practical assistance efforts, such as demonstration models, are increasing information about accepted best environmental management practices in the development of oil and gas. They are also building public interest and commitment for reform in the management of water resources. The public is being educated on why reforms are in the long-term interest of the citizenry. For example, local water user groups, using simple technology, will be able to more accurately assess their on-farm water needs and communicate this information to those who allocate irrigation water. This information will then be integrated into the planning for water allocations on a larger level. Appropriate demonstrations will take place in each republic.	PA Consulting

SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES	Implementing Partners
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<p>The Conflict Mitigation Initiative, which includes Mercy Corp's Peaceful Communities Initiative (PCI) and the Community Action Investment Program (CAIP), promotes public dialogue, improves management of transboundary water resources and public health facilities, and increases education and other opportunities for youth. Through use of community participatory processes, the initiative will help identify sources of conflict, prioritize investments in social infrastructure improvements, create several thousand new jobs, and improve social services through new and repaired physical infrastructure. The goal is to enhance community participation in local development planning and decision making processes, strengthen community conflict prevention and resolution capacity, and increase income and employment opportunities for community members, in particular for women and youth. Target areas include selected impoverished, drought-affected and conflict-prone areas in the Khatlon region and the Rasht & Tavildara Valleys of Tajikistan.</p>	<p>Mercy Corps, AKF, UNDP</p>
<p>Youth & Education: A USAID-funded civics education textbook and accompanying teacher training and manuals are in use in secondary schools in Tajikistan; USAID-supported democracy summer camps, student local government days, and student action committees round out the extracurricular portion of this program. Business education and training is a key component of USAID's enterprise objective across the region (see section on Business Support & Education above). The Community Action Investment Program involves considerable primary school renovation and equipment. USAID's Peaceful Communities Initiative (PCI) supports the Ferghana Valley Youth Basketball League, made up of four teams of 15-16 year-olds who represent all ethnic groups in the area, including Uzbeks, Tatars, Kyrgyz, Tajiks, Turks and Russians. Consideration is underway to expand the Ferghana Valley Youth Basketball League to include girls, open up more age groups, and spread to other cities. USAID's community-based Health Education and Sports activity sponsors Cross-Border Game Days, which bring together soccer teams from each of the Central Asian republics to compete against one another. The aim is to use sports as a vehicle to bring neighbors together, promote healthy life styles and advocate against drug use. USAID is also developing a more comprehensive basic education program in Central Asia and is modifying its crosscutting objective into a new special objective. In Tajikistan, the program will leverage physical rebuilding and equipping of schools for curriculum reform, budgetary improvements, management reforms and teacher training. The new program is expected to be fully developed by August 2002.</p>	<p>IFES, Mercy Corps, Soros Foundation OSI, Carana, Abt Associates</p>
<p>Humanitarian/Disaster Relief Assistance: USAID in coordination with USDA has provided considerable food aid through the UN's World Food Program and U.S. NGOs to support drought relief efforts in Tajikistan. USAID has also supported efforts to rebuild communities affected by Tajikistan's civil war through the United Nations' program that designs and executes small rehabilitation projects such as water supply systems, sewage systems, and reconstructing schools and medical facilities. USAID also help establish two youth houses in Dushanbe and Kurgan Teppa to offer educational and social programs for young people affected by civil conflict and economic dislocation. USAID's purchase of high quality Kazakhstani wheat seed and fertilizer from Uzbekistan has reached over 22,000 rural farming households affected by drought.</p>	<p>UNDP/UNOPS, ACTED, SNI, AAH, CARE, WFP, UMCOR, AKF</p>
<p>Eurasia Foundation makes small grants on an ongoing basis, oriented to support the transition from centrally-planned to market economies. The grants support innovative private enterprise development through increased access to capital and information. Grants also support local governance, improved public administration, and the growth of civil society.</p>	<p>Eurasia Foundation</p>
<p>Participant Training & Exchanges: Training and exchanges remain a critical element for accomplishing USAID's overall strategic goals, and participants are carefully selected to support and complement USAID's broader portfolio and objectives. The training program is highly flexible and includes workshops, on-the-job training, observation, study tours and conferences and generates new ideas from participants on improving practices in their own countries. USAID provides short-term training courses in the United States, in-country and in third countries for mid-to-senior level leaders and professionals in areas directly relevant to the transition to democracy and a free-market economy. Training, exchanges and partnerships have been fundamental to overall success since participants are carefully selected to support and complement USAID's broader portfolio and objectives. Approximately 5,000 Tajikistan citizens, of whom 50% are women, are trained annually. Of this total USAID trained over 1,800 decision-makers, professionals and active citizens through its Global for Development (GTD) project. A resource center gives participants and their colleagues access to computers, fax, photocopier, and e-mail facilities. In 2002, a new training and exchanges program called Strategic Technical Assistance for Results (START) began.</p>	<p>AED</p>

Glossary of Acronyms:

AAH:	Action against Hunger
ACTED:	Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development
ABA/CEELI:	American Bar Association/Central and East European Law Initiative
AED:	Academy for Educational Development
AIHA:	American International Health Alliance
AKF:	Aga Khan Foundation
CARE:	Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere
CDC:	The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
HOPE:	Health Opportunity for People Everywhere
ICNL:	International Center for Not-for-Profit Law
ICMA:	International City/County Management Association
IFES:	International Foundation for Election Systems
ISAR:	Initiative for Social Action and Renewal in Eurasia
KIMEP:	Kazakhstan Institute of Management, Economics and Strategic Research
MASHAV:	Israeli Development Agency
MBA-EC:	MBA Enterprise Corps
MERLIN:	Medical Emergency Relief International
OSCE:	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
OSI:	Soros Foundation Open Society Institute
RPM:	Rational Pharmaceutical Management
SEAF:	Small Enterprise Assistance Fund
SNI:	Shelter Now International
UMCOR:	United Methodist Committee on Relief
UNDP:	United Nations Development Program
UNOPS:	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNMOT:	United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan
WHO:	World Health Organization
WFP:	World Food Program